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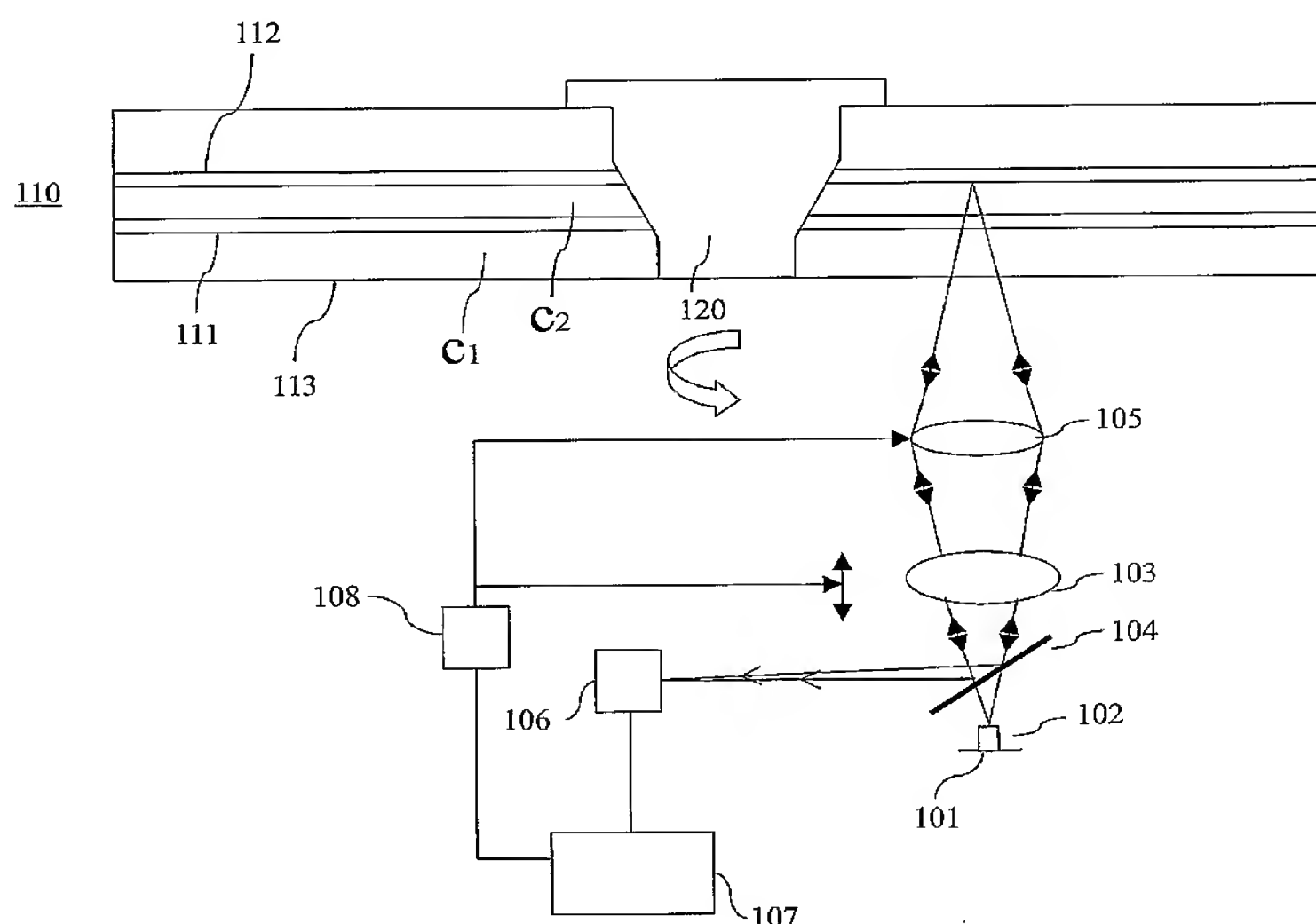
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(54) Title: OBJECTIVE LENS



(57) Abstract: The invention concerns an objective lens for use with a dual layer optical information carrier. Such a carrier as used in Blu-ray Disks (BD) has a first information layer at a depth D₁ below a top surface of the carrier and a second information layer at a depth D₂, greater than depth D₁. In accordance with the invention the objective lens is designed to produce substantially equal amounts of higher order spherical wavefront aberration when scanning the first and second information layers by providing minimum spherical aberration for scanning at a depth D_{opt} which is located between an average layer depth D_{av} = ((D₁+D₂)/2) and a depth (D₁+D_{av})/2. More specifically, the optimum depth D_{opt} is typically smaller than 0.995 D_{av} and most preferably less than 0.99 D_{av}.

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